REMARQUES

UPON THE

New Project

OF

Association:

In a Letter to a Friend.

SIR;

YOU would have me give you the ſence of the Town, together with my own Private Thoughts upon the Subject of your Laſt. The *Former* would be *Tedious* and *Extravagant*, in a Caſe where People, either through *Paſſion*, or *Intereſt*, are ſo Extremely divided. And the *Latter* (with Submiſſion) would be as *Unſafe*: But I ſhall, however, Gratifie your Curioſity in as full, and as Particular an Anſwer to the Summ of your Demands, as the Quality of the Matter in queſtion, and the Compaſs of a Letter will conveniently bear.

You are ſo far in the Right; as that the Paper you ſpeak of, is ſaid, by ſome, to be the *Project* of a *Bill* for an *Aſſociation*; And grounded upon the *Precedent* of an *Aſſociation* 27 *Eliz.* It is ſaid further, that it is no more then what was mov'd in the *laſt Weſtminſter Parliament*; and only *a ſhort Draught*, or Scheme *of an* Aſſociation, *for a General Defence againſt a Popiſh King*. But on the other hand, It is cry'd out againſt as the *Inſtrument* of a *Treaſonous Conſpiracy* againſt his *Majeſty*, and the *Government*, under the Countenance of a *Religious Aſſociation*.

Thus far, Sir, you are rightly Enform'd, as to the Buſineſs of Ordinary *Conjecture*, and *Diſcourſe*; but your Intelligence afterwards runs a little too large; for the Paper was barely *found* in my Lords Cloſet; And any man may have Papers perhaps in his Poſſeſſion that he does not approve of. How far the Members of that Parliament (which is the next Point) will find themſelves concern'd in Honour to ſearch farther into this Affair, I am not able to Divine.

It will be both for your Eaſe and mine, to Conſult, and Compare the Pieces themſelves, and to ſee how far this *late Draught* of *Aſſociation* agrees with the *Ends*, and *Intent* of the *Former*: And after that, to Examine it's *Conſiſtency* with it *ſelf*: To which purpoſe I ſhall (in their due place) lay *both the Aſſociations* before you, with ſuch Notes upon, and concerning them, as may ſerve in ſome meaſure to Explain the Matter in hand: And therein I ſhall ſpeak to the ſeveral Points of your Letter, as they fall in my way. The Words of the *Former* are as follows.

The Paper which was Seized in the E. of *Shaftsbury's* Closet by *Francis Gwin* Esquire, One of the Clerks of His Majesties Privy Council, and Read *November* 24. 1681. at the *Old-Baily*, before His Majesties Commissioners of *Oyer* and *Terminer*.

1. WE the Knights, &c. Finding to the grief of our Hearts, the Popish Priests and Jesuits with the Papists, and their Adherents and Abetters have for several years last past pursued a most pernicious and hellish Plot, to root out the true Protestant Religion as a pestilent Heresie, to take away the Life of our Gracious King, to subvert our Laws and Liberties, & to set up Arbitrary Power and Popery.

NOTE, That the Stile of the *First* Clause, in these Words, [*We the* Knights, &c.] Imports an Act of the *Commons*, Exclusive of the *Lords*; and *Rege Inconsulto*: The *Dread* and *Danger* of the *Popish Plot*, is made the *Inducement* to it: The *Papists Adherents* and *Abettors*, ranged with the *Papists themselves*; and joyned in the same Design of Murdering the King, &c.

2. And it being Notorious that they have been highly encouraged by the Countenance and Protection given and procured for them by J. D. of Y. and by their expectations of his succeeding to the Crown, and that through crafty Popish Councils his Designs have so far prevailed that he hath created many and great Dependents upon him by his bestowing Offices and Preferments both in Church and State.

In the *Second* Clause, his R. H. falls under the same Accusation; and the Government, Effectually, put into his hands, toward the Gaining of his Ends. Now the meaning of *Adherents*, and *Abetters*, is Expounded by the Author of *Smith's Quaries* upon the *Duke's Bill*, where he says that [*the Pleaders for a* Popish Successor, *ought to be Esteem'd no other then* Betrayers *of their* King and Country, Renegado's *from their* Religion, (*if ever* Protestants *at all*) and *the* worst of Papists; *and so to be dealt with all in City and Country.*] Here's an *Anathema* pronounc'd already against all Men under that Qualification; and the *Invalidating of the Kings Witnesses* is One Condition of the Sentence; which does most Expressly conclude all the *Present Defamers* of the Kings *Witnesses* under *the same Condemnation.*

This way of Exposing the Kings Loyal Subjects of the *English* Communion, under the Notion of *Papists*, (or in truth, beyond them,) and that, not only in *Libellous Papers*, but in some *Councels* also, is too notorious to need any Instances to confirm it: And what's the drift of these practices, but under a *General Scandal*, to *Stigmatize* that Party that will not Close with the *Faction*, and to set them up as a Mark to the Fury of the *Rabble*? And this is only a *Preparatory* toward a greater Work that is to follow; and whosoever is not wilfully Blind, cannot but see the Design to be all of a Thrid.

From this Aversion toward a sort of people (in general) represented under such a Character; the next Step is the *Naming* of *Particular Persons*, the *Discriminating* of *Parties*; the Computing of *Numbers*, & *Interests*, and so from *Listing*, to Pass on into *Associations*, and *Levies*. Let not this be taken for a Trivial Speculation upon the Common Methods, and Preliminaries to *Rebellion*: for I have heard, (and I do as firmly believe it, as a Man can believe any thing that he never saw) that there is Extant a Calculation upon all the Counties of *England* and *Wales*, *Alphabetically Digested*; Dividing the Men of Interest, and Consideration, in each Respective County into *Two Columns*, One against another: The *One* under the Title of *Worthy Men*; and the *Other*, of Men *Worthy* (to be *Hang'd*, that is) Ranging the *Country Party* (as they call it) under the former, and the *Court-Party* under the *Other*: Which appears, (as I am assured) by the Transporting of Names from One to the Other, as any Man is found to Change his Side and Opinion. By the Benefit of this Roll, 'tis not above a *Week*, or *Ten Days Work*, to take a *Muster* of the *Nation*; To *Communicate Orders*; To know whom to *Impeach*, and whom to *Arrest*; and they that have *Money* shall never want *Evidence*. There is a Wonderful Correspondence betwixt the Tendency of *this List*, and the *Paper* of *Association*; betwixt the Dictates of the *Factions Pamphlets*, and the matter of *Fact*, in *Evidence*, and it were little less then a *Miracle*, if all this should come by chance.

It

3. It appearing also to us, That by his Influence Mercenary Forces have been levied and kept on Foot for his secret Designs contrary to our Laws; the Officers thereof having been named and appointed by him, to the apparent hazard of his Majesties Person, our Religion and Government, if the danger had not been timely foreseen by several Parliaments, and part of those Forces with great difficulty, caused by them to be Disbanded at the Kingdoms great Expence: And it being Evident, that notwithstanding all the continual endeavours of the Parliament to deliver his Majesty from the Councils, and out of the Power of the said D. yet his Interest in the Ministry of State and others have been so prevalent, That Parliaments have been unreasonably Prorogued, and Dissolved when they have been in hot pursuit of the Popish Conspiracies, and ill Ministers of State their Assistants.

In the *Third* and *Fourth* Clauses, the *Kings Guards* are Pronounc'd to be *Contrary to Law*; The *Officers* chosen by the Duke, *Subservient* to his *Designs*, and *Dangerous* to his Majesties *Person*, &c. The *King himself* Charg'd with following *Popish Councels*, *Unreasonable Prorogations*, and *Dissolutions*, in favour of *Popish Conspirators*, and *Ill Ministers of State*, their *Assistants*; The *Garrisons*, *Army*, and *Ammunition* in the hands of the *Dukes Party*, and *their Adherents*.

It is not my Work to amplifie upon these *Falshoods*, and *Slanders*, in this place; so that I shall proceed.

4. And that the said D. in order to reduce all into his own Power hath procured the Garrisons, the Army and Ammunition, and all the power of the Seas and Souldiery, and Lands belonging to these Three Kingdoms to be put into the hands of his Party and their Adherents, even in opposition to the Advice and Order of the last Parliament.

5. And as we considering with heavy Hearts how greatly the Strength, Reputation and Treasure of the Kingdom both at Sea and Land is Wasted and Consumed, and lost by the intricate expensive management of these Wicked destructive Designs; and finding the same Councils after exemplary Justice upon some of the Conspirators, to be still pursued with the utmost devilish malice, and desire of Revenge; whereby his Majesty is in continual hazard of being Murdered to make way for the said D's Advancement to the Crown, and the whole Kingdom in such case is destitute of all security of their Religion, Laws, Estates and Liberty, sad experience in the Case, Queen Mary having proved the wisest Laws to be of little Force to keep out Popery and Tyranny under a Popish Prince.

The *Fifth* Clause Deplores the sad Estate of the *King* and *Nation*, by reason of the same Councel. And after this *Remonstrance* upon the whole matter, [We the Knights, &c.] come to a point, in that which follows: That is to say,

6. We have therefore endeavoured in a Parliamentary-way by a Bill for the purpose to Bar and Exclude the said Duke from the Succession to the Crown, and to Banish him for ever out of these Kingdoms of England and Ireland. But the first Means of the King and Kingdoms Safety being utterly rejected, and we left almost in Despair of obtaining any real and effectual security, and knowing our selves to be intrusted to Advise and Act for the preservation of his Majesty and the Kingdom, and being perswaded in our Consciences that the Dangers aforesaid are so eminent and pressing, that there ought to be no delay of the best means that are in our power to secure the Kingdom against them. We have thought fit to propose to all true Protestants an Union amongst themselves by solemn and sacred promise of Mutual Defence and Assistance in the preservation of the true Protestant Religion, his Majesties Person and Royal State and our Laws, Liberties and Properties, and we hold it our bounden Duty to joyn our selves for the same intent in a Declaration of our United Affections and Resolutions in the Form insuing.

6ly. The *King* will not agree to *Barr* and *Exclude* the *Duke* in a *Parliamentary-way*; and therefore we'l enter into a *League*, and Invite the Kings Subjects to *Joyn* with us in a *Vow* of *Mutual Defence* and *Assistance* (in an *Un-Parliamentary-way*) to the Intent of a Declaration in the Form Ensuing.

Now put all together, and the summ of it, in short, is this. There's a *Plot* upon the *Kings Life*, &c. The *Duke* is *in't*; and preferrs *Ministers of State*, *Officers Civil* and *Military*, for his purpose; *Prorogues* and *Dissolves Parliaments*, *Saves the* Popish *Lords*; makes the *King* a *Cypher*; and therefore since he will not agree to *Exclude* and *Banish his Brother*

ther by Act of *Parliament*, [illegible] Knights, &c.] *will joyn with all* True Protestants *in a* Sacred Promise *to Destroy* him, *and his* Adherents, *without exception to His Majesty himself*, who for Refusing to *Exclude* his *Royal Brother*, is declared to be *one of the* Party. To what Ends, and Purposes, will be seen in the *Association it self.*

The Association.

I A. B. Do in the presence of God solemnly, Promise, Vow, and Protest to maintain and defend to the utmost of my Power, with my Person and Estate, the true Protestant Religion against Popery and all Popish Superstition, Idolatry, or Innovation, and all those who do or shall endeavour to spread or advance it within this Kingdom.

I will also as far as in me lies maintain and defend His Majesties Royal Person and Estate; as also the power and priviledge of Parliaments, the lawful Rights and Liberties of the Subject, against all Incroachments and Usurpation of Arbitrary power whatsoever, and endeavour intirely to Disband all such Mercenary Forces as, we have reason to believe, were raised to advance it, and are still kept up in and about the City of London, to the great Amazement and Terror of all the good people of the Land.

Moreover J. D. of Y. having publickly professed and owned the Popish Religion, and notoriously given Life and Birth to the Damnable and Hellish Plots of the Papists against His Majesties person, the Protestant Religion, and the Government of this Kingdom. I will never consent that the said J. D. of Y. or any other, who is or hath been a papist, or any ways adher'd to the papists in their wicked Designs be admitted to the Succession of the Crown of England, But by all lawful means and by force of Arms, if need so require, according to my Abilities, will oppose him, and endeavour to Subdue, Expell and Destroy him if he come into England, or the Dominions thereof; and seek by force to set up his pretended Title, and all such as shall Adhere unto him, or raise any War, Tumult, or Sedition for him, or by his Command, as publique Enemies of our Laws, Religion and Countrey.

To this end we and every one of us whose hands are here under-written, do most willingly bind our selves and every one of us unto the other joyntly and severally, in the Bond of one firm and loyal Society or Association, and do promise and vow before God, That with our joynt and particular Forces we will oppose and pursue unto Destruction all such as upon any Title whatsoever shall oppose the Just and Righteous ends of this Association, and Maintain, Protect and Defend all such as shall enter into it in the just performance of the true intent and meaning of it. And lest this Just and pious Work should be any ways obstructed or hindred for want of Discipline and Conduct, or any evil minded persons under pretence of raising Forces for the service of this Association, should attempt or commit Disorders, we will follow such Orders as we shall from time to time receive from this present Parliament, whilst it shall be sitting, or the Major part of the Members of both Houses subscribing this Association: when it shall be prorogued or Dissolved, and obey such Officers as shall by them be set over us in the several Countreys, Cities, and Burroughs until the next meeting of this or another Parliament, and will then shew the same Obedience and Submission unto it, and those who shall be of it.

Neither will we for any respect of persons or Causes, or for Fear, or Reward, separate our selves from this Association, or fail in the Prosecution thereof during our Lives upon pain of being by the rest of us prosecuted, and suppressed as Perjur'd persons, and publick Enemies to God, the King, and our Native Countrey.

To which Pains and Punishments we do voluntarily submit our selves, and every one of us without benefit of any Colour or Pretence to excuse us.

In Witness of all which Premisses to be Inviolably kept, we do to this present Writing put our Hands and Seals, and shall be most ready to accept and admit any others hereafter into this Society and Association.

This

THis Form of *Association* is only the *Covenant Reviv'd*, with the *same Licence, Limitations, Reserves*, and *Equivocations*; and to the very *same End and Purpose*: And all *Schismatiques*, and *Hereticques* whatsoever, *Taken*, and *Invited* into the *Combination*, under the Colour of preserving the *True Protestant Religion*, (the *Papists* only excepted.) The *Guards* to be *Disbanded*, as *Illegal*; His *R. H.* to be *Expell'd* or *Depos'd*; and all his *Adherents* (even the *King himself*) to be *destroy'd by Force of Arms*. That is to say, The *King* is to be allow'd *no other Ministers, Magistrates, Officers*, but what the *Associates* shall vouchsafe to afford him, and he himself likewise upon his *Good Behaviour*, under the pain of an Immediate *Insurrection, Tumult*, and *Revolt*.

Being engaged by this *Vow, Promise, Protestation*, (or what what else you please) to a *downright Rebellion*, (unless the King will deliver up his *Crown* without Striking a *Stroke* for't) the Oath is carry'd *on*, even to the *Manner*, and *Method*, by which the Nation is to be Govern'd, after such Violence Acted upon the person, and Authority of the King: And this Confederacy is Extended even to the Devolving of the *Sovereign Power* upon the House of *Commons*, *Sitting the Parliament*; and upon the *Major part of the Members of both Houses, Subscribing this Association*, after the *Prorogation* or *Dissolution* thereof: And they never to Recede, upon any Consideration whatsoever. So that here's a *King Depos'd*, a *Monarchy Destroy'd*; a *Common-wealth Erected*; a *Free People Enslav'd*; and all in a Trice, by the help of this *Pious Union* if ever it should come to take Effect: And in Conclusion the *Supreme Power Vested* in the *Two Houses* to *Perpetuity*. This is the Fairest Construction that can be made on't, for tho' the Paper calls it the *Present Parliament*, in a *Complement*, 'tis only the *House of Commons*, in *Effect*.

Now look back upon the whole, and take notice how Frivolous all those *Colours*, and *Pretensions* are, that have been produced, either in *Favour* or *Excuse* of this *Paper*. [We the Knights] *do Declare, and Swear, that what we cannot Compass in a* Parliamentary-way, *We will endeavour to bring about by force of* Arms. Here's the very Constitution of *Parliaments* overthrown at a Dash: and pursuant to this Resolution, so many Members that were Chosen, and Entrusted to serve their Countrys, and (as much as in them lay) to uphold and maintain the Laws of the Land, and the Liberties of the people, have now propounded to set up themselves by this project, without either *King*, or *House of Lords*; as a *Standing Committee*, and to Exercise an *Arbitrary Power* over their *Fellow-Subjects*, to the Subversion of the *Common Rights*, and in Defiance of the *Fundamental Privileges* of *King, Parliaments*, and *People*. So much for the *pretended project* of a *BILL*.

Now to this *Scheme of an Association for a Defence against a* Popish *King*. The Paper begins with Exclamations against a *Popish Plot*, and concludes in *an Oath of Conspiracy* against a *Protestant Prince*. It *begins* with a pretended Tenderness for *Religion*, and *ends* in a *peremptory Sentence* and *Determination* of *State*. For *fear* of a *Popish King*, here's a *Certain* Provision that we shall have *no King at all*; and under pretext of *Opposing* an *Arbitrary Power* in the *Crown*, here's an Expedient offer'd (as for the Avoidance of it,) by *Swearing Allegiance* to the *Unlimitted will* and *pleasure* of a *Committee of Disbanded Members* of our own *Fellow Subjects*.

But this is no more, they say, then was propounded, and Debated in the House of *Commons*. There was an *Address* of the Commons, ('tis true) bearing date *May* 10. 1679. [*That His Majesty would be graciously pleased to give Order for raising the* Militia, *and keeping of it up for some certain time*,] and the Lords were afterwards reminded of it: To which (as I remember) His Majesties Answer was, That *he would not part with it, so much as for an hour*; But here was no *Associating* to take possession of it by *Force*, in case it should be refused.

It is True likewise, that the *Commons, December* 15. 1680. *Pass'd a Vote that a Bill should be brought in for an* Association *of all His Majesties* Protestant Subjects, *&c.* And that upon the *One and Twentieth* of the same Month, they presented an *Address* to the King, desiring therein, *That his Majesty would be Graciously pleased to assent to an Act, whereby His Majesties Protestant Subjects might be* Enabled *to* Associate *themselves for the Defence of his* Person, *&c.* Which very Word [Enabled] Imports a *Concession*, and *Acknowledgment* that without the Kings Passing such a Bill, they had no Right to Authorize such a Combination.

But that which has misled people into a Mistake, so Derogatory to the Honour of the House of *Commons*, I presume may be this. There were several Questions put by the *Foreman of the Jury*; First to Mr. *Gwin*; and afterwards to Mr. *Secretary Jenkins*, that carryed some sort of Countenance, as if *This Association* had been *Debated*, and *This very Pa-*

per, *Read* in the House of *Commons*. 'Tis a short Passage and I'le recite it, as you will find it in the *Printed proceedings*, Pag. 34.

Foreman. Don't you know, Sir, there was a Discourse in the *Parliament* of an *Association?*

Mr. Gwin. Sir I was not of the last Parliament, I know nothing of it.

Foreman. You have not heard then that there was such a Thing in *Parliament* concerning an *Association?*

Mr. Gwin. I have heard of an *Association* Talk'd of.

Foreman. Mr. Secretary, I would ask you some Questions, If you did not know of a *Debate* in Parliament of an *Association?*

Mr. Secretary. I was not present at the Debate; but there was a Talk in Town of an *Association.*

Foreman. Did not you hear of it in *Parliament?*

Mr. Secretary. Indeed there was an answer to a Message from the House of *Commons* that had something in it that did strongly Imply an *Association*; but *This particular Association* I do not remember to have heard propos'd.

Foreman. Don't you remember in the House of Commons Sir, it was read, upon Occasion of that Bill?

Mr. Secretary. I heard such a thing spoken of; but at the Reading of it I was not present, to the best of my remembrance.

I know nothing to the contrary, but that the *form* of this *Vow* and *protestation*, (meaning the *Three first Clauses* of it) might possibly be read in the *House*; But to imagine, that the *Honorable* House of *Commons* would ever have endur'd the Starting of a Project to over-turn the very *Foundations* of *Government*, were to do them the greatest Indignity in the world. The late Usurpers themselves were half way through the Rebellion, before they arriv'd at that degree of Boldness. If any man should Interpret these *Glancing Interrogatories* in such manner as to take this Project for an Act of the House; The *Jesuits* themselves could not have done the *Popish Plot* a greater piece of service, then the promoting of such an Errour as might create a Jealousie of *Treason* within those Walls: But on the other side there may be *Scandals Taken* as well as *Given.*

If it were not for Tiring of you out, I could shew ye the *Originals*, both of this *Draught* and *Design*, and Trace the very *Footsteps* of our *Reforming Hero's*, from his Majesties most *Dutiful and Loyal Subjects* with their Outcrys of *Plots* and *Popery*, and *Eyes and Hands lifted up unto the Lord in a* Holy Covenant; to the *severing of his Majesties Sacred Head from his Body*, upon a *Scaffold*; But it is too Capious a Theme, and there needs no more then Dipping any where in the Records of the Late Times to Famish the *Parallel.*

There remains yet another Abuse to be Clear'd, wherein they Impose upon the people, that *this Association* is founded upon the *same Grounds* and *Considerations* with that of the 27*th.* of the *Queen.* You will better judge whether it be so or no, upon a view of the *Instrument* it self, and some few Remarques thereupon.

The *Instrument*, or Writing of *Association*, that the *Protestants* of *Enlgand* enter'd into, 27 *Eliz.*

FOrasmuch as Almighty God hath Ordained Kings, Queens, and Princes, to have Dominion and Rule over all their Subjects, and to preserve them in the Possession and Observation of the true Christian Religion, according to his holy word and Commandment: And in like sort, that all Subjects should Love, Fear, and Obey their Soveraign Princes, being Kings or Queens, to the utmost of their power; at all times to withstand, pursue, and suppress all manner of Persons that shall by any means intend and attempt any thing dangerous or hurtful to the Honour, States, or Persons of their Soveraigns.

Therefore we whose Names are or shall be subscribed to this Writing, being Natural Born Subjects of this Realm of England, and having so Gracious a Lady, our Soveraign Elizabeth, by the Ordinance of God, our most rightful Queen, Reigning over us these many Years with great felicity, to our inestimable Comfort: And finding lately by divers Depositions, Confessions, and sundry Advertizements

tiſements out of Forreign parts from credible Perſons, well known to her Majeſties Council and to divers others; That for the furtherance and advancement of ſome pretended Title to the Crown, it hath been manifeſted that the Life of our Gracious Soveraign Lady Queen Elizabeth, hath been moſt dangerouſly expos'd to the peril of her Perſon, if Almighty God her perpetual Defender, of his mercy had not revealed and withſtood the ſame. By whoſe Life, we and all other her Majeſties True and Loyal Subjects, do enjoy an ineſtimable benefit of peace in this Land; do for the Reaſons and Cauſes before alledged, not only acknowledge our ſelves moſt juſtly bound with our Lives and Goods for her defence, in her ſafety, to perſecute, ſuppreſs, and withſtand all ſuch Intenders and all other her Enemies, of what Nation, Condition, and Degree whatſoever they ſhall be, or by what Councel or Title they ſhall pretend to be her Enemies, or to attempt any harm upon her Perſon; but do further think it our bounden Duties for the great benefit of Peace, and Wealth, and Godly Goverment, we have more plentifully received theſe many Years, under her Majeſties Government, than any of our Forefathers have done in any longer time of any other Progenitors, Kings of this Realm.

Do declare, and by this Writing make manifeſt, our bounden Duties to our ſaid Soveraign Lady for her ſafety. And to that end, We, and every of us, Firſt Calling to Witneſs the Name of Almighty God, do Voluntarily and moſt Willingly bind our ſelves, every one of us to the other, joyntly and ſeverally in the Band of one Firm and Loyal Society. And do hereby Vow and Promiſe by the MAJESTY OF ALMIGHTY GOD, That with our whole Powers, Bodies, Lives, and Goods, and with our Children and Servants, We, and every of us, will faithfully ſerve and humbly obey our ſaid Soveraign Lady Queen Elizabeth, againſt all States, Dignities, and Earthly powers whatſoever; and will as well with our joynt and particular Forces during our Lives withſtand, offend, and purſue, as well by force of Arms, as by all other means of Revenge; all manner of perſons of w'ᵗ ſtate ſoever they ſhall be, and their Abetters, that ſhall attempt any Act, Counſil, or Conſent to any thing that ſhall tend to the harm of her Majeſties Royal perſon, and will never deſiſt from all manner of forcible purſuit againſt ſuch perſons, to the utter Extermination of them, their Counſellors, Aiders, and Abetters.

And if any ſuch wicked Attempt againſt her moſt Royal Perſon, ſhall be taken in hand and procured, whereby any that have, may, or ſhall pretend Title to come to this Crown, by the untimely death of her Majeſty ſo wickedly procured (which God for his Mercy ſake forbid) may be avenged; We do not only bind our ſelves both joyntly and ſeverally never to Allow, Accept, or Favour any ſuch pretended Succeſſor, by whom, or for whom any ſuch deteſtable Act ſhall be Attempted or Committed, as unworthy of all Goverment in any Chriſtian Realm or Civil State.

But do alſo further Vow and Proteſt as we are moſt bound, and that in the preſence of the Eternal and Everlaſting God, to Proſecute ſuch Perſon and perſons to Death with our joynt or particular Forces, and to ask the utmoſt Revenge upon them that by any means we or any of us can deviſe and do, or cauſe to be deviſed and done for their utter Overthrow and Extirpation.

And to the better Corroboration of this our Loyal Band and Aſſociation, We do alſo Teſtifie by this Writing, that we do Confirm the Contents hereof by our Oaths corporally taken upon the Holy Evangeliſt, with this expreſs Condition; that no one of us ſhall for any reſpect of perſons or Cauſes, or for Fear or Reward, ſeparate our ſelves from this ASSOCIATION, or fail in the proſecution thereof, during our Lives, upon pain of being by the reſt of us proſecuted, and ſuppreſt as perjur'd perſons, and publick Enemies to God, our Queen, and to our Native Country. To which puniſhment and pains we do voluntarily ſubmit our ſelves, and every of us, without benefit of any colour and pretence.

In Witneſs of all which Premiſes to be inviolably kept, we do to this Writing put our Hands and Seals; and ſhall be moſt ready to accept and admit any others hereafter, to this Society and Aſſociation.

You may now be pleased to Compare *this Association* with the *other*, which pretends (Effectually) to Write after *this Coppy*. You have in *this*, an *Ample* and a *Solemn Acknowledgement* of *Soveraign Power* in the *Queen*, and *Indispensible Obedience* in the *Subject*. But in the *other* not only a *Disclaimer* of the *Kings Authority*, and the *Subjects Duty*, unless his Majesty will Comply with whatsoever his people shall Impose upon him) but a *Total Abdication* of his *Imperial Power*; And a *Vow* of *Conspiracy* to Oppose him by *Force*; and set up an Inconsiderable part of the people, *Masters* of the *Government*.

You have *here* an *Association* to *defend* the *Queen* against any *Pretendent* whatsoever upon a *False Title*. The *other* is a *Conspiracy* for the Destruction, even of the *present King*, because he will not Consent to the *Dispossessing* his *Brother* of a *Just*, and *Legal Title*, both before *God* and *Man*. *This Engagement* Extends only to a *Remote Prospect* of Injury to the Crown, with a Resolution to Employ *Violence* when the *Occasion requires* it, and not before: But the *other* is a *Confederacy* to offer Violence to the *Crown* themselves; and to *Embroile* the *Nation forthwith* in a *Civil War*, upon a *pretended Fear* of Danger at a *Distance*. This is a *Combination* against the *Queens Enemies*, *with* her *Royal Approbation*, and *Consent*. The *Other* is a *Confederacy* against the *Kings Brother*, and his *Friend*, and against his Majesties *approbation* and *Consent*. The *one* (in short) is for a *Submission* to a *Lawful Authority*; The *other* for the *Final* and *Irreparable Extirpation* of it. To Conclude; Whoever lays both Ends together of this *Late Association*, will find, that it *begins* in the Name of *God*, for the *Preservation* of *Religion*, and *ends* in the *Devils Name* with the *Total Extinction* of *King* and *Government*.

THE END.

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